

| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| | 10/050,067 | REGNIER, JOHN W. | |
| | Examiner Magid Y Dimyan | Art Unit 2825 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 29 SEPtember 2004.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-37.
3. The drawings filed on 08 April 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

STACY A. WHITMORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Acknowledgement

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the Amendments to the Claims, and to the Remarks, both filed September 29, 2004. It is acknowledged that Claim 13 has been amended to overcome the objection cited in the Office Action mailed on June 29, 2004. However, the Applicant has yet to submit a new Oath/Declaration that identifies the citizenship of the inventor, as indicated in the Office Action cited above. The Applicant's arguments in his Remarks cited above are persuasive, and thus the claims are allowable for that reason, and for the reasons indicated below.

Oath/Declaration

2. Applicant is now required to submit a substitute declaration or oath to correct the deficiencies set forth in the Office Action filed on June 29, 2004. The substitute oath or declaration must be filed within the THREE MONTH shortened statutory period set for reply in the "Notice of Allowability" (PTO-37). Extensions of time may NOT be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136. Failure to timely file the substitute declaration (or oath) will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application. The transmittal letter accompanying the declaration (or oath)

should indicate the date of the "Notice of Allowance" (PTOL-85) and the application number in the upper right hand corner.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1 – 37 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: referring to claims 1 – 11 and 17 – 37, none of the references of record teach all the elements of these claims pertaining to the extraction of flat data from a hierarchical representation of a circuit that includes: (a) a processing sequence that selects an element during hierarchical traversal; (b) determines if flat data for the element has been previously stored; and (c) if flat data for the element has been previously stored, appends that data to an accumulated flat data related to the selected element.

Referring to claims 12 – 16, prior art does not teach the computer implemented system for extracting flat data from a hierarchical representation of a circuits that also includes: (a) a process for determining if a selected cell instance has a matching flat path data stored in the data structure; and (b) a process for retrieving the flat data path data for the matching cell from the first data structure.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Magid Y Dimyan whose telephone number is (571) 272-1889. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew S Smith can be reached on (571) 272-1907. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Magid Y Dimyan
Examiner
Art Unit 2825

myd
13 December 2004

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STACY A. WHITMORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

